

the change has been very apparent. These statements apply to the operations on the road—and on Commercial street, in this city, as well as in the country towns. Mr. Wood feels confident that the statements of Mr. O'Donnell do great injustice to the present habits even of the Irish population. Instead of retrograding, he believes they have exhibited, on the average, a decided improvement in their habits during the last two years.

The name of Ira Crocker follows that of Mr. Wood. Mr. Crocker has been an active business man during his whole life, and has been a keen observer of men and things. He commenced business in the country as a trader in "E. & W. I. Goods," and at a time when "rum and molasses" were generally regarded as the principal commodities. He knows what the state of things was then, both in city and country, and what it is now, as well as any other man in the State. He is neither a "roving temperance brawler, traveling lecturer, or reformed drunkard"—nor is he "seeking notoriety and distinction, and striving for political or sectarian influence and position"—but as far removed from all this as any man possibly can be. He is simply a shrewd business man, who has enjoyed and improved his means of extensive observation, and gives the result of that observation in the statement which he has signed. It may not be improper to add that in the contest for Mayor, between the friends of Mr. Dow and Mr. Parris, Mr. Crocker voted for Parris, believing that he would faithfully enforce the law.

Mr. Nathan Cummings is one of our wealthiest citizens, and was formerly Collector of this port. He is a Whig, but voted for Mr. Parris against Mr. Dow. He has no hesitation, however, in saying that great good has been accomplished by the law.

But the length to which these prefatory remarks are extending admonishes us to be more brief.

Mr. Thomas is President of Canal Bank. J. B. Osgood was formerly President of the Canal Bank, and subsequently of the Atlantic Bank. Mr. Jewett was the Collector of this port during the administrations of Gen. Taylor and Mr. Fillmore. Mr. Fessenden is too well known within and out of the State to require an introduction. St. John Smith and T. C. Hersey are of the well known firm of "Smith & Hersey." They know what they say upon this subject, and neither of them can be suspected of being biased by any undue partiality for Neal Dow. There was no more decided opponent of the election of Mr. Dow, than Mr. Hersey.

And so we might go on through the whole list. A careful analysis would show that a very large proportion of the signers are men of "property and standing," and men of large business—for the reason that the paper was more extensively circulated among that class, inasmuch as efforts have been made to produce the impression that they are generally opposed to the law, and that it meets with favor only from men of "humble ambition." But the list also includes the names of many others—men of humbler fortunes and less property, but of equal intelligence and worth. It embraces men of all parties and all sects, without distinction, and, as we have previously said, might have been increased in number so as to have presented an overwhelming majority of our citizens, if more numbers had been deemed of importance.

The following is the
Statement of Citizens of Portland.
PORTLAND, Oct., 1853.

Our attention has been recently called to statements made by two citizens of Portland, in relation to the operation of the liquor law in this city and State. These statements are, in substance, that there is more intemperance, and more liquor sold and drunk, in this city and State, at the present time, than before the passage of our existing liquor law. One of them even goes so far as to say that there is more intemperance "in this city and neighborhood, and probably throughout the whole State, with here and there a doubtful exception, than there has been at any other time for twenty years!"—and both give representations of the condition of things in Portland, calculated, if believed, to affect injuriously the fair reputation which our city has heretofore sustained abroad. If these statements had been published and circulated only in this city and State, we should not feel called upon to notice

them. But having been circulated abroad to the injury of the reputation of our city and State, and in a manner calculated to work serious mischief, we feel it our duty to unite in saying—as we do in the most unqualified terms—that we deem these and all similar statements, as most grossly and palpably erroneous and unfounded. That they are erroneous and unfounded must be manifest to every candid and unprejudiced citizen of our city, not only from the apparent condition of things, but from that very sure test as to the existence of intemperance, the records of pauperism and crime.

We deem it proper to add that the personal position which most, or all of us occupy, in regard to the practical business and pursuits of this city, enables us to speak in this matter from actual personal knowledge of facts:

James B. Cahoon, J. K. Morse, Eliphalet Greely, J. H. Merrill, J. J. Carruthers, D. D. Joseph Johnson, Russel Streeter, Elisha Trowbridge, R. P. Cutter, Wm H. Jarvis, W. T. Dwight, D. D., Augustus Robinson, J. C. Aspinwall, Thomas Chadwick, B. D. Peck, W. B. Kimball, Wm McDonald, John W. Manger, J. S. Eaton, Hezekiah Packard, J. R. French, Manthano Pickering, Wm H. Endisy, John C. Brooks, J. M. Wood, Wm A. Hyde, Ira Crocker, Henry B. Hart, Nathan Cummings, George Lord, W. W. Thomas, J. W. Turner, J. B. Osgood, John B. Foster, Thos Hammond, Daniel Hood, Luther Jewett, S. B. Beckett, W. P. Fessenden, Nath'l F. Deering, S. J. Smith, Geo Warren, T. O. Hersey, E. Banks, E. Tinkham, Wm Hammond, Luther Dane, H. C. Babb, Eben Steele, John Yeaton, Wm. Willis, C. A. Stackpole, Joshua Richardson, Lemuel Cobb, Byron Greenough, Wm H. Stephenson, Edward Gould, Martin Gore, J. B. Scott, Robert I. Robison, Samuel Fessenden, V. C. Hanson, C. C. Harmon, Joseph Colly, Henry Carter, Jas G. Tukey, William Goodenow, B. Underwood, J. W. Waterhouse, S. C. Chase, A. Conant, E. P. Chase, Augustus E. Stevens, Daniel Evans, Woodbury S. Dana, Alpheus Shaw, Sam'l P. Baker, Moses G. Dow, Charles Staples, Paul Hall, Nathan Ross, T. J. Sanborn, D. H. Furbish, Lewis Dela, Israel T. Dana, Burleigh Pease, W. C. Robinson, Nath'l Shaw, E. C. Andrews, Simeon Hall, B. O. Fernald, John C. Tuckersbury, N. L. Purinton, Sam'l Waterhouse, Jr., Joseph H. Perley, Anthony F. Gay, John A. Larabee, Daniel Gill, S. H. Colaworthy, Henry A. Jones, George W. Harmon, F. Shepherd, J. Gunnison, S. T. Greely, F. E. Pray, H. J. Boynton, N. Ellsworth, Edward P. Banks, Sumner B. Chase, Wm H. Hatch, Joseph Hay, Wm I. Cross, Wm W. Lothrop, William Hyde, Stanley Covell, T. S. Files, David Rigge, Noah Hanson, Eben Seavey, J. H. Cook, James Crie, Nathaniel Crockett, J. M. Waterhouse, Isaac Libbey, Jed h. Jewett, Geo E. Small, Daniel W. Nash, J. R. Thompson, Amos Davis, Thomas R. Hayes, Edwin C. Owen, Calvin Edwards, James Poole, John Leavitt, J. Williams, C. H. Greene, J. Tuckersbury, Lem'l Gooding, Alfred Haskell, Samuel True, M. M. Haskell, H. J. Libby, Robert Dresser, Henry Nowell, Samuel Huff, Jr., Wm E. Kimball, W. W. Carr, Henry Robinson, T. Morton, Calvin Farrar, A. ner Lowell, Edward W. Baker, William Senter, E. Shaw, Samuel Elder, Edward H. Elwell, Thomas Tolman, Erastus E. Gould, Thomas F. Tolman, Rufus Tukey, Daniel Mussey, H. Covell, N. D. Curtis, J. C. Morse, H. H. Haselton, Dan'l Winslow, E. C. Stevens, Perley D. Cummings, J. Shaw, Otis Brown, George F. Ayer, Solomon Low, Benjamin Fogg, Samuel Chase, John Purinton, Stephen B. Chase, S. L. Carleton, Charles Withington, Joseph Libbey, Thos Warren, George W. Woodman, H. O. Barnes, Sam'l R. Leavitt, H. P. Deane, E. A. Norton, F. G. Cummings, John W. Thomas, Benjamin Larabee, Jr., Eliphalet Webster, H. C. Lovell, Wm H. Purinton, M. G. Palmer, William Libbey, D. M. C. Dunn, S. R. Webber, Chas A. Osgood, N. I. Mitchell, J. G. Tolford, C. C. Hayes, Joshua Hobbs, David Moulton, S. G. Longee, Benj Garvin, Wm H. Morse,

Wm K. Rhodes, Ghas A. B. Morse, B. G. Chaney, John T. Hull, Ira Black, Moses Lyford, F. S. Clark, John W. Colcord, E. Gammon, Elijah Howes, Wm Lord, Nathan Esly, Joseph Gardner, Albert J. Merrill, Joval Lincoln, P. Randall, Samuel Small, D. Green, Wm Boyd, Mark Walton, Alexander Small, George M. Elder, Nath'l Brown, Charles Averill, Josiah Little, Jr., Benj Perkins, Woodbury Store, Brown Thurston, James Todd, Wm W. Woodbury, Chas W. Robinson, H. S. Edwards, Daniel Choate, Charles Jones, Samuel N. Beale, Samuel E. Brown, T. H. Weston, Frederick Twombly, Edwin Fernald, N. A. Foster, Charles H. Fernald, D. Cummings, Jr., A. M. Small, Cyrus Cummings, Reuben Knight, Joseph Halsey, Joshua F. Weeks, Moses Gould, John T. Walton, Ambrose Gladings, Wm W. Joseph, George H. Shirley, John A. Balkam, Charles Keat, Isaac O. Neamith, S. A. B. Farington, Edwin O. Stiles, F. C. Moody, Winslow Hall, M. Coolidge, Samuel A. Knight, Ephraim Gooding, J. F. Leavitt, Frederick Davis, James Chase, Nahum Elwell, W. O. Barrows, Daniel T. Adams, R. J. Anderson, S. M. Doyle, M. Black, Thos E. Twitchell, Moors Turner, A. W. Smith, John Remick, Chas F. Greene, M. H. Hilton, Nath'l N. Lang, John Cox, Wm Gould, Leonard Billings, Wm P. Stodder, Cyrus Sturdevant, H. M. Hart, Sam'l B. Clark, Leonard Cross, F. M. Foote, Jacob Pierson, George H. Coyle, James E. Robison, Chas F. Williams, Isaac Stevens, Frederick S. Towle, A. F. Cloudman, Charles Milliken, Henry Fickett, L. S. Hutchins, Edward Thurston, James R. Holmes, W. H. Fove, Thomas J. Redlon, R. J. Hall, Alvin Deering, Chas W. Smith, W. L. Witson, D. M. Thurston, John S. Libby, Adah Chandler, David G. Plummer, Joseph York, W. H. Chamberlin, Robertson Dyer, Darius White, S. A. Pierce, John Rounds, H. P. Johnson, E. F. Noyes, J. L. Dresser, Freeman Smith, A. M. Dresser, Augustus J. Staples, Wm Gould, M. W. Furlong, Elisha P. Nason, Chas P. Ingraham, S. W. Larrabee, George Conant, Jr., J. F. Edwards, Sam'l S. Webster, J. F. Thurston, Micah Sampson, C. C. Eaton, George Conant, B. Duran, J. W. Yeaton, Enoch Boyd, Charles Sawyer, B. F. Thorndike, Moses M. Allen, Nicholas Stickney, Tristram N. Walker, John Ayers, George Pierson, Mathew Cobb, J. B. Cummings, George Ayers, Crawford Dunn, Luther Rice, J. E. Hodgkins, J. Harris Cox, Peter Mugford, M. Pearson, Sam'l Tyler, William Weeks, Edward Fairfield, Thomas Pearson, Benj Radford, James H. Baker, M. B. Walker, John Try, Sargent Shaw, Jacob Chaplin, James R. Dockery, G. W. Beal, Nath'l J. Gilman, Albion Blackstone, S. B. Haskell, Andrew S. Sawyer, J. Merrill, L. D. Hanson, James Hus, Daniel Cole, John Ayers, Jr., Daniel Furbish, Samuel Rounds, Alexis Abbott, Geo H. Wilson, Joshua S. Shaw, Charles D. Barrett, A. Blanchard, Wm Kimball, John Edmund, Wm S. Dodge, Joseph Bradford, Clement Pennell, Charles Blake, G. T. Hedge, Henry P. Lord, Benjamin Fry, William H. Hyde, James H. Berick, J. L. Chase, Alvin Jordan, Geo S. Sylvester, O. Brooks Ingraham, George W. Pennell, James W. Clark, James L. Noyes, J. L. Sawyer, Charles C. Tolman, R. K. Hunt, Benj Halsey, James Small, James S. Brooks, Joseph H. White, Edward F. Colby, John H. Spear, Shirley Elwell, Hiram Brooks, M. A. Humphrey, D. Francis Scammon, Lemuel Coolbroth, Wm D. Mariner, Wm Williams, J. N. Marr, Geo E. Richardson, W. H. Dunn, R. L. Day, George Golder, Joseph Holmes, Gamaliel S. Drew, James Crowley, Silas Dunn, Ch. W. Wyer, Israel Jackson, Andrew Libby, John Brooks, Samuel S. Felt, Wm Thurston, Thomas J. Grover.

There was a large fire at St. Louis on Thursday night. It destroyed a four-story block of buildings on the corner of Spruce and Levee streets. Latourette & Co., oil manufacturers, were the heaviest losers. They had about 15,000 bushels of flaxseed and 6,000 bushels of castor beans in the building. They were insured in the St. Louis and eastern offices in the sum of \$50,000. The other buildings were also insured.

Self-deceit is the easiest of any.

Queer Adventure.

A Philadelphian, a Mr. H., married to a beautiful young woman, lately set out for Baltimore, on business. He took with him a portrait of his wife, whom he wished his relations near that city to be acquainted with at least, by sight. Having arrived at the end of his journey, in the confusion of getting out his baggage, he left the portrait in the car, in which he had been seated. A few minutes after, a young man setting off for Philadelphia, took the seat lately occupied by Mr. H., and there found the portrait. His first idea was to make inquiries for the owner, but Mrs. H., we have said, was handsome, and the picture was like her; so the gentlemen decided to keep it. Having arrived at Philadelphia, he gave it a place in a sort of female gallery, surmounting the mantelpiece of his parlor.

Three months afterward, (Mr. H. having returned to Philadelphia,) formed an acquaintance with this identical individual. Calling upon him one day, he was shown into the parlor to await the speedy arrival of his host. While waiting, he examined the various paintings on the walls, and lo! and behold! he came across the portrait of his wife hanging amid a numerous and miscellaneous assemblage! Upon the arrival of the gentleman, Mr. H. took occasion to ask for a history of the divers ladies constituting his gallery. The young gent assented with a good grace, and passed them all in review. Having arrived at the last one, which was no other than Madame H., our young hero, with a triumphant air, exclaimed, "This is the pearl of my collection, as you see. She is a young Southern lady, who has lost her heart for me. I believe she is married now." "Sir," exclaimed Mr. H., "I thought you were a gentleman; I now pronounce you a blackguard."

Half an hour afterward, Mr. H. sent a friend to our gallant. A rendezvous was arranged for next morning, but on the appointed ground, our young beau made the most abject apologies to Mr. H., and was generously pardoned by him.

BLETON/ST.—This is a word used to denote the "faculty of perceiving and indicating subterranean springs and currents by sensation." It is so called after a Frenchman named Ble-ton, who possessed it, or affected to possess it, in a high degree.

The practice of resorting to this process for the purpose of ascertaining where water lies, and at what places to dig wells, is very common in this country and in Europe.

In almost all sections, we can find persons who claim the faculty, and practice it extensively.

Usually the person takes a forked stick, and balancing it in its hand, passes it over the spot where it is desirable to find water. If the element exist, one end of the stick is said to incline to the earth.

We have in Mobile men who are employed in this way, or who give their services gratuitously to their neighbors, and we have what we consider well attested proofs of their success. Most people, however, who have never seen the experiment tested, ridicule it; and those who practice it can give no reason for it, or tell by what process hidden water should impress the stick which they carry in their hands.—*Mobile Herald and Tribune.*

The Boston Transcript says that a plan for enlarging that city by annexing all the towns within five miles, and thus make it equal in size and population to the third city in the United States, will be presented for the early consideration of the next Legislature of Massachusetts. If this movement should be successful, the consolidated city would be entitled to 100 representatives in the state legislature.